

Monkton ANAC Meeting Minutes for 17 June 2015

In Attendance

Members: Deb Gaynor, Corine Farewell, and Laura Farrell (via Skype). Sam Burr joined the meeting at 7:55.

Absent: Rachel Schattman

Guests: Alison Lesure

- 1) Laura called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.
- 2) Approval of minutes from 6 May 2015 and 15 April 2015 – Deb moved to approve the minutes from May 6th as presented, seconded by Corine, all voted in favor. Deb requested changes to items 7 and 8 from the April 15th minutes. Corine moved to accept minutes as modified, Deb seconded, all voted in favor.
- 3) Cota appraisal – Sam commented that things are progressing but there isn't any further update at this point in time.
- 4) Rotax / TNC update – Laura has been in touch with Jon Binhammer and Bob Heiser and determined what needs to be done to finalize the acquisition of the Rotax property by the town. Laura will gather documents and send to VLT.
- 5) Champlain Valley wildlife habitat talk by Sue Morse on June 19th – Corine, Deb, and Laura will attend the event. There will be tables set up before the talk and ANAC will share it with the Monkton CC. ANAC will have maps and brochures available. Laura will help Marty lead a discussion after the presentation with other Conservation Commissions around connectivity and what is going on in neighboring towns.
- 6) Data backup – Sharon Gomez provided two thumb drives to use for data back-up.
- 7) Questionnaire for neighboring towns' Conservation Commissions – Discussed how the questionnaire will be structured. Points a-e were reworded and reformatted into the questions seen below in italics, and point f was removed as a question and placed in the introduction line for the questionnaire. It was agreed that all of the revisions to the questions were fine as discussed and Laura will send around to the ANAC members to review for grammar and spelling, with a request for response from members by Tuesday June 23rd. At the next ANAC meeting, members will complete the questionnaire for Monkton. Laura will send the questionnaire to the towns on July 1st and request response by August 1st.

To help us write up a summary of our discussions, and identify common goals and objectives in our towns' conservation strategies and planning, please take a few minutes and complete this form.

a) Group liaison: phone and email. Include name, strengths in your group. If anyone would like to be identified as go-to person in this regional effort, please let us know here.

b) State how your CC's activities coordinate with your town plan, and if there are specific strategies and objectives you are currently working on. 6/17/15 p. 2 of 2

c) Is your CC interested in meeting once or twice a year to work on regional-scale planning for conservation?

d) Please recap how much mapping and of what type you have done for your town. Are any of your maps publicly available through a website?

e) Is habitat connectivity a recognized objective in your town's conservation activities and strategies?

Do your town's assessments of potential conservation parcels include a wildlife evaluation?

Does your town require any special covenants for wildlife/habitat protection in conservation easements within their town?

8) Other business:

- Steve Pilcher contacted Laura about a potential new member for ANAC or Conservation Commission, or both. Laura will invite him to the next ANAC meeting.
- Sam noted that there is an upcoming Planning Commission viewshed meeting and if anyone has pictures of views in Monkton, all are encouraged to share.

9) Next meeting will be July 22 at 7pm.

10) All moved to adjourn, Sam seconded, and all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Lesure